The Field Museum

Natural News

Weekly Staff Newsletter
September 17, 1999

Just a coupla home boys hangin' in Harris...

Harris Loan Center registrar Moses Raspberry can now refer to himself as an "FOB," and we're not talkin' about Bill Clinton here... we're talkin' Hollywood; we're talkin' about Fat Albert himself, Bill Cosby.

Film and TV star Cosby, who was in the Museum last Saturday filming "Kids Say the Darnedest Things," needed a quiet place to kick back and relax from throngs of admiring fans. And what better place to hide out than amongst the dead animals and plastic plants of the Harris Loan Center?

Cosby sat down and chawed the fat with Moses for more than a half hour, while Moses provided a detailed explanation of Harris history and the philosophy behind the use of educational loan materials.

Now even movie stars have information needs, so Cosby then asked Moses the big question: "Do you have any bees?" Moses, of course, took Cosby back into the Harris storage and showed him just what he wanted to see. Cosby apparently has a lot of bees on the front porch of his house, and wanted to know more about them.

And that's what it's all about here at The Field Museum—helping people learn about the natural world—isn't it?

And Moses, who deals with movie stars and celebs all the time, says it's just part of his job and won't let it go to his head. Right.

Submitted by Dan Brinkmeier

FIELD NOTES

Week of September 20

Staff/Volunteer Events

Tae Bo class
- Monday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East

Aerobics Class
- Tuesday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East
- Thursday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East

Green Sheet Meeting
- Wednesday, 3 p.m, Special Events

Softball
- Wednesday after work
  Call John Petreikis at ext. 7340 for details/directions

PUBLIC EVENTS

World Music Festival
- Kickoff Event, 5 p.m.
  See inside for details/volunteer opportunities

Bon Appetit Events
- Friday

The **Natural News** is edited by Rodger Patience in the Development Department. Call ext. 7286 or e-mail *patience* with stories, news, events, or any item of interest to the Museum community.

NEW!!
Deadline for each week's issue is now **Wednesday** at noon.
NEW!!

World Music Festival Chicago!

September 21 - 30, 1999

The Field Museum is proud to collaborate in Chicago's first annual multi-venue music festival in association with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the Mayor's Office of Special Events, the Old Town School of Folk Music, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and Hothouse/CIPEX.

Traditional, contemporary, and fusion music of cultures from around the world will be showcased. Pick up a World Music Festival schedule of events at visitor services desks around the Museum or in the Education Department and check it out!

Top musicians are coming from around the world—though they may possibly be unfamilar to you and me, they are leading stars in their field. Over 40 musical ensembles from 25 countries will perform, in addition to a host of US and Chicago-based musicians.

The Festival will kick off at The Field Museum on Tuesday, September 21, 1999; the Museum will stay open (free of charge) from 5 to 11 p.m.

The mainstage concerts will be held on the North terraces, beginning with the Earth Harp and featuring the Zimbabwe Leaders/Mbira Ensemble (master musicians premiering in Chicago), Musafir (a Gypsy ensemble dedicated to preserving the folk music and dance of Rajasthan, India), and Olodum (the 23-member Afro-Brazilian percussion ensemble that created the samba-reggae movement in Brazil).

That evening will also feature our musical exhibit **Sounds from the Vaults**, and lectures and demonstrations by the musicians who participated in the exhibit-making process. It promises to be a VERY exciting evening!

Check the Field Guide for other World Music Festival events here at the Museum.

Submitted by Johanna Krynytzky

Call for volunteers!!!

With the crowds we're expecting as the kick-off location for the World Music Festival, we're going to need a lot of help!! Join us Tuesday, September 21 and become part of the Festivities. Call Johanna at ext. 7532 to volunteer! Bring a friend—there'll be plenty to do!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

(If you want grant money for your research, that is)

New guides from the National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation has just released the newest version of the Grant Proposal Guide and Forms Kit. These will be the effective documents for all grant applications submitted after October 1, 1999.

Both documents are posted on the Sponsored Programs Intranet page. To get there from the Intranet home page, select Departments/Sponsored Programs/Funding Agencies/Sponsored Programs page for NSF.

The direct URL for the Grant Proposal Guide is: http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf002; and the URL for the Forms Kit is: http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf003.

Submitted by Deborah Bakken

John W. McCarter
President
Field Museum
Roosevelt Road and Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Il 60605-2496

September 7,1999

Dear Mr. McCarter:

I would like to relate an incident that happened to me during the visit of the Dalai Lama to the Field Museum this past August 28th.

Let me begin by saying that I had been present at an all-day teaching program by the Dali Lama on August 22nd in Bloomington, Indiana. However, due to previous commitments and time constraints, I arrived exhausted and thus unable to concentrate and fully appreciate the event. I decided to give myself "one more chance" and try to attend the Field Museum's August 28th event. (After several frustrating, unsuccessful attempts to get through to a Ticketmaster agent, I finally reached one. The friend who was to accompany me was so frustrated that she gave up earlier than I and made other plans for August 28th.)

In any case, I did enjoy the museum program. Afterwards, I decided to remain at the museum and browse. After lunch, I noticed a group of perhaps 10 people standing near a roped-off corridor, so I approached them thinking they were waiting to see an exhibit. At the corridor entrance were two museum guards, James Rushing, whose name I learned later, and a young woman. They were nice enough to allow us to wait there because this small group of people had somehow discovered that the Dalai Lama would soon be passing that way. The two guards gave us specific instructions about not crossing the rope, not grabbing at him should he come near, etc. When the Dalai Lama did appear at the far end of the corridor we all waved and I know that I, for one, motioned for him to come over. You can imagine our excitement as he scurried over to shake our hands and allow us to take photos. I've enclosed a color copy of the one that I took. The happiness at that moment was contagious-even the Secret Service men were in a good mood!

I would like to commend these two guards not only for their professionalism, but especially for their kindness to our small group. How appropriate that we were shown such kindness in light of the Dali Lama's message. Thanks to James Rushing, the female guard and the Field Museum, all of us will have a treasured memory forever.

Sincerely,

Carol Banach

Carol Banach

(Field Museum member for many years)

cc: Ronald Cundiff--Security
cc: Diane White--Public Service
cc: Erica Kelly--Education

To: All Department Heads

From: Lou French
Manager, Facility Planning & Operations
Lfrench@fmnh.org
Extension 7390

Re: Gas interruption, Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Facility Planning & Operations will be interrupting the natural gas supply to the Museum between 6pm and 8pm the evening of Wednesday, September 22, 1999.

To that end, we need to be absolutely sure of the location of any equipment in the building that uses natural gas from the building's source.

Please notify my office, most preferably by email, of all natural gas equipment in your area before the end of the day Monday, September 20. Include equipment, locations and any special instructions.

Thank you for your assistance in this very important matter.

Director
The Field Museum
Rooselvelt Road
Chicago Illinois
60605

Dear Director,

I would like to call your attention to a certain individual who went out of his way to provide me with extensive information about the oarfish. Kevin Swagel responded to my request for information with copies of articles, copies from a website, and copies of photos. On these copies he wrote personal notations that explained the points of the articles. These were neatly packed under a very helpful cover letter providing me with additional resources for my search.

I want to say that I was extremely impressed by this individual's assistance and clear enthusiasm for his work. I am very grateful for his help.

Sincerely,

Christine Conners
5951 Gaines Road
Cincinnati, Ohio
45247
513-741-9018
conners@goodnews.net

CHICAGO WILDERNESS

A Regional Nature Reserve

JOIN NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY!
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1999

WHAT: "National Public Lands Day," a public volunteer event throughout Chicagoland

DESCRIPTION: Nature gives us so much: recreation, life-saving medicines, flood prevention, a home for wildlife. Here's your chance to give back. On National Public Lands Day you can join tens of thousands of volunteers across the country healing the earth for a healthier environment, for the beauty of nature, and for future generations to cherish and enjoy.

On this special day, events will be held at forest preserves, parks and other natural areas around the region. Volunteers of all ages will be collecting seeds, planting trees, improving trails and helping to restore degraded woodland, prairie, stream, and wetland habitats. Treat yourself and your family to a fall day in nature!

WHO: Sponsored by **Chicago Wilderness**, a coalition of 92 agencies and organizations (The Field Museum is a member) dedicated to the protection, restoration and stewardship of the natural communities of the Chicago region and the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation (NEETF)

CONTACT: For more information on National Public Lands Day, please contact the site coordinators listed below or for general information call (708) 485-0263, ext. 396. You can also get more information on the Chicago Wilderness website (www.chiwild.org) under "What's News?" and the national website (www.npld.com).

WHAT TO BRING: Dress for the weather in long pants. Wear boots or thick-soled shoes, bring work gloves and insect repellent if you have them. Bottled water is a good idea, even if refreshments are provided. And don't forget your camera! Who knows what wildlife might stop by to watch you?

CHICAGO WILDERNESS NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY LOCATIONS

CUBA MARSH FOREST PRESERVE – Barrington (Lake County, IL) – 9:00 am to Noon

Highlights: All ages can participate in native seed collection from the healthy prairie at this beautiful and diverse preserve. Visitors will learn about "Preservation Partners," a program of Citizens for Conservation and Lake County Forest Preserves, involving area students. Refreshments, activities for kids and tours will be available. **Directions:** East of Barrington in southern Lake County, take Ela Road (between Lake-Cook Road and Route 12) to Cuba Road. Turn west on Cuba Road to the entrance to Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve. Meet in main parking lot. **Call Sam Oliver (847) 382-7283 for more information.**

POWDERHORN PRAIRIE – Burnham/Hammond – 9:00 am to Noon

Highlights: Join the Calumet Ecological Park Association and Calumet Prairie Restoration volunteers at this rare gem near Powderhorn Lake, owned by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. After an orientation to the work being conducted, visitors will help cut invasive brush to improve native habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Work gloves and refreshments will be available. **Directions:** Enter the parking lot from Brainerd Avenue (approximately 141st St. South) one half mile east of Avenue O (Burnham Avenue). **Call Joe & Marlene Nowak (708)333-3642 for more information**

JACKSON PARK'S WOODED ISLAND – Chicago – 10:30 am to 4 pm

Highlights: After an orientation to natural area restoration, visitors will take a self-guided tour of Wooded Island and kids can enjoy educational games such as "Nature Hunt" and "How Tall is this Tree?" After a break with refreshments provided, you will help restore this urban oasis by removing invasive weeds choking out the native wild plants. **Directions:** Park behind the Museum of Science and Industry (on the building's south side) and follow signs to the event meeting place, the "Japanese Garden." **Call Michaelene Brown (312)747-0692 for more information.**

NORTH PARK VILLAGE NATURE CENTER – Chicago – 9:00 am to noon

Highlights: All ages can experience wilderness in the city and help volunteers plant trees and pull invasive buckthorn and cattails to restore the splendor of the City of Chicago, Department of Environment's 46-acre natural area. Stroll through the prairie remnant, pond ecosystem and oak savanna. **Directions:** Located at 5801 North Pulaski Road on Chicago's north side.

From entrance at Pulaski and Ardmore, travel east to second stop sign. Turn left and follow road around to right, then to parking lot on right side before you reach the dead-end cul de sac. **Call Bob Porter (312)744-5472 for more information.**

HARMS WOODS – Glenview, IL – 9:00 am to noon or 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Highlights: Choose the morning or afternoon event to enjoy tours of the preserve and join the 20-year volunteer program to restore this high quality oak woodland owned by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. By cutting invasive brush, sunlight can once again reach the wildflowers and native tree seedlings. **Directions:** From Glenview, take Lake Ave. east to Harms Rd. Turn right (south) on Harms Rd and travel past Glenview Rd to the parking lot on the west side of Harms Rd. When that lot is full, overflow parking is available in the next lot south, at the corner of Harms Rd and Old Orchard Rd. **Call John & Jane Balaban (847) 679-4289 for more information.**

LAKE IN THE HILLS FEN – Lake in the Hills (McHenry County) – 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Highlights: Your efforts will enhance this picturesque complex of morainal ridges, prairies and wetlands by clearing brush and collecting native seeds. Nature walks will be given throughout the day, which concludes with a twilight hike and marshmallow roast. An informative talk by Steven Byers of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission will kick off this special event. **Directions:** From Algonquin, take Route 31 north to Route 62. Turn left on 62. At the first stoplight turn right on Pyott Road. At bottom of hill, turn left into Barbara Key Park. **Call Al & Barb Wilson (847)658-4213 for more information.**

OLD SCHOOL FOREST PRESERVE – Libertyville (Lake County, IL) – 9:00 am to noon

Highlights: Old School is one of the earliest examples of blending restored prairie and other ecosystems with trails and other public use areas. Continue this tradition of people and nature happily co-existing by collecting native seeds as part of the restoration effort. "Take nature home" with literature and displays from the US EPA Natural Landscaping Program. Refreshments, children's activities and tours will also be available. **Directions:** From Libertyville, take Route 176 east to St. Mary's Rd. Turn right (south) on St. Mary's Road and travel 1 mile south to the preserve entrance. Meet at Shelter B. **Call Tom Smith (847)948-7750 for more information.**

INDIAN BOUNDARY PRAIRIES – Markham, IL – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Highlights: Cutting brush and collecting seeds help one of Illinois' highest quality tallgrass prairie preserves flourish for hundreds of species of plants and animals, including rare butterflies and birds. Learn more about this National Natural Landmark by taking guided tours and visiting the educational displays. All volunteers will receive packets of native prairie seeds for home landscaping. **Directions:** From Chicago, take Route 57 south to Route 6 (159th St.) in Markham. Follow Route 6 east to Pulaski/ Crawford Avenue. Take Pulaski north to 151st St. and park at the Central Elementary School parking lot. **Call David Wachtel (312)346-8166 x31 for more information.**

INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE – Michigan City, IN – 9:00 am to noon

Highlights: Save native habitat for a rare oak woodland dunes ecosystem by helping to remove exotic shrubs near old homesites. The spreading of this invasive vegetation shades out native flowers and tree seedlings struggling to survive. Educational activities will be available for children, teens and adults. **Directions:** Meet at the overflow parking lot east, across the road from the Dorothy Ruell Memorial Visitor Center. Located between Hwy 12 and Hwy 20 just west of Michigan City and the town of Beverly Shores. **Call Rich Vaughn (219)926-7561 x338 for more information.**

CAMPTON HILLS PARK – St. Charles (Kane County, IL) – 9:00 am to noon

Highlights: After an orientation to the what, why and how of restoration work, volunteers will help bring back the scenic beauty of the park's natural area while improving wildlife habitat. Activities include brush cutting, weed removal and collecting native seeds. Children will enjoy educational games, and refreshments will be offered. **Directions:** Take Route 64 through St. Charles west of Randall Road. Turn right at Campton Hills Road, which continues west. After crossing Peck Road, look for the second park entrance on the south. **Call Mary Ochsenschlager (630)513-3338 for more information.**

WOLF ROAD PRAIRIE – Westchester (Cook County, IL) – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Highlights: Visit the finest black soil prairie east of the Mississippi and help restore the savanna and wetland ecosystems. By cutting brush and collecting seeds, you will make a difference that will be visible for years to come. Enjoy prairie tours and educational video programming at the historic 1852 Prairie House Nature Center. The Hody Coyote puppet show helps kids learn about local nature. **Directions:** From Eisenhower Expwy (I-290) in Hillside, exit southbound on Wolf Road. Proceed 3 miles and turn right on Constitution Drive. **Additional parking nearby. Call Valerie Spale (708) 865-8736 for more information.**

MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE – Wilmington (Will County, IL) – 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Highlights: Volunteer opportunities at Midewin (meh-DAY-win) include improving habitat for endangered birds, planting prairie seedlings, cleaning up future recreation areas, and hands-on archeology. You'll also tour the preserve, which is not yet open to the public. **Directions:** Located on Route 53, about 12 miles south of Joliet. From I-55, take exit 241 (Wilmington) and turn left at the stop sign. Drive straight for 4-5 miles and turn left (north) at the Route 53 intersection. Continue about 1 mile to the Administrative on the east side of the road. **Call Portia Blume-Gallegos (815)423-6370 for more information.**

1999

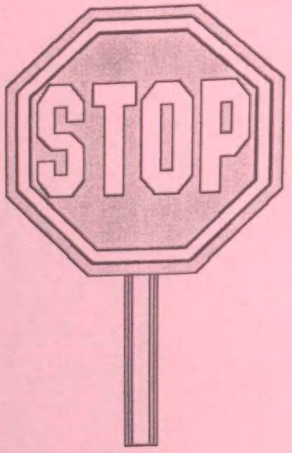
October

1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9/16/99					1 Women's Bd Gala 6:30pm-12:00am 900	2 MDeNardo-SFH/Rice/China/Sounds fr Vault 11:00am-3:00pm 10 Searle Global Meeting-Rice/Cartier/Undg Adv 6:30pm-9:30pm 80 Nimi-JST 12:00pm-5:00pm Fi re vs Kansas City 7pm
3 SWebb- SFH/JST/Exhibit 5:00pm-9:00pm L.Nimi-SFH 11am-5pm Bears Game-Noon	4 T-Special Events- Rice JFrazier-SFH/Bal/Searle/Sds fr Vault 4:30pm-8:30pm BAdams-Sirgusa Ctr 5:00pm-10:00pm BAdams-JST 3pm-10pm MABloom-Cartier Exh 6:30pm-9:30pm MdeNardo-Maori House 5pm-9pm	5 LSanders-Rice 12:00pm-1:30pm BAdams-JST	6 Ed-Music Workshop SFH/Exhibits 5:00pm-11:00pm	7 UFEW Local 881-SFH 6:30pm-9:30pm 300 Boston Univ-Rice/Cartier Exh 6:30pm-9:30pm 200 Chg. Bears Breakfast-SFH am MdeNardo-Living Together 9am-1:30pm	8 MDeNardo-SFH 8am-2pm MdeNardo-JST 9am-5pm LSanders-Rice 10am-3pm	9 Pediatric Aids-SFH Rob Dann Bar Mitzvah-Rice 7:00pm-11:00pm
10 T-Special Events-SFH Dinos & More-SFH 11am-3pm	11 Dinos & More-SFH 10am-1pm Merchandise Mart-SFH/JST 9am-11pm	12 CWinship-SFH 3pm-10pm Dinos & More-SFH 10am-1pm	13 CWinship-SFH/JST 3pm-10pm	14 Comm. Jos Moreno – SFH 200	15 Ed-Overnight Celebracion set-up/SFH	16 Celebracion 99 – SFH/Rice/Whole Museum 11am-4pm SStott-Halloween Nights –JST/Exh 6pm-10pm
17 Celebracion 99-SFH/Rice/Whole Museum 11am-4pm. Bears Game-Noon	18 Celebracion 99-SFH/Rice/Whole Museum 10am-1pm	19 Celebracion 99-SFH/Rice/Whole Museum 10am-1pm	20	21 T-Special Events-SFH	22 Chicago IS-N. American Spine-SFH 6:30pm-10:30pm 600	23 Sidley & Austin-SFH/Bal 6:30pm-12:00am 600 Academy of Arts & Sciences-Rice6:00pm-10:00pm Sstott-Halloween Nights/JST 7-10:00pm 140 Egypt Revealed-JST 9am-6pm 900
24 Nat. Council of St. Housing Agencies-SFH Egypt Revealed-JST 9am-4pm 600	25	26 DuPont-SFH LaSalle Bank-Rice 6:00pm-8:30pm 100	27 T-Special Events-SFH	28 Masterplan-SFH/JST 400	29 Ed-Overnight Music In The Park-SFH-9am-5pm 1500	30 Harvest Fest-SFH/Rice/Exhibits-11am-11pm Church Of Christ-SFH/Bal 7:00pm-11:00pm 1500
31 Harvest Fest-SFH/Rice/Exhibits 10am-11pm						

TRAFFIC ALERT

SEPTEMBER 17-19



The Weekend of September 17-19 will be a very busy weekend with the following events: Chicago Fire vs. Tampa; Race for the Cure; UNO; Celtic Festival, Chicago Bears vs. Seattle and the Toyota '99 National Dealers Meeting at McCormick Place. These events will impact the Campus (particularly incoming staff).

Saturday September 18- Roosevelt Road from Clark Street to Lake Shore Drive will be completely closed beginning at 8:30 a.m. It is scheduled to re-open at approx. 11:30 a.m. Southbound traffic will be re-routed to exit at 18th Street and head northbound to McFetridge Drive.

If you have any questions, please call the Public Services Department at extension 7911 or visit http://intranet1:100/parking for important parking and traffic information.

The Field Museum

President's Address

Wednesday 29 September

last names beginning A–M
9.00 am – 10.00 am

coffee and bagels
10.00 am

last names beginning N–Z
10.30 am – 11.30 am

Montgomery Ward Lecture Hall

HUMAN RESOURCES

BankOne At Work

As a result of the merger between First Chicago and BankOne, our bank at work program will now be "BankOne At Work" with BankOne.

You will continue to enjoy the same benefits as before which include:

- $0 minimum balance in your BankOne At Work Basic One checking account with your first order of 50 checks printed FREE.
- No per check fee when paying with a check.
- Unlimited FREE use of BankOne ATMs — the largest network in Chicagoland, including the ATM at the Museum's South Door.
- Plus many more!

Please see the Human Resources Office for an application.

Educational Assistance Committee

The next regular meeting of the Educational Assistance Committee will be on Tuesday, September 21, 1999.

Eligibility guidelines and applications to receive reimbursement for certain educational expenses may be found in the Human Resources Office. Please forward applications to one of the committee members by that date. Committee members are:

Rayfield Drake, Computing Services
Carole Kasarda, Human Resources
Karen Little, Finance
Carolyn Moon, Visitor Services
Francie Muraski-Stotz, Exhibits
Randell Strickland, Education

Please feel free to call Carole Kasarda at ext. 7275 or any of the committee members if you have questions about the program.

Eddie Bauer Discount Days!!!

Just in time to get ready for the cold winter ahead! All staff and volunteers are eligible to receive a **20% discount** on all full price merchandise at Eddie Bauer Stores (excluding Outlets and Warehouse sales) Wednesday, September 22 through Saturday, September 26.

There are three ways to get your 20% discount:

- Bring your ID badge, business card or pay stub and tell the cashier you are there for the Corporate Event.
- Call 1-800-426-8020 to order by catalog. Mention "Code 772" prior to placing your order.
- Go online at www.eddiebauer.com and type "775" in the "special instructions" box in the Shipping Information section of the online form.

Kid Care Program

Do you insure your children under The Field Museum's health insurance?
Did you know that you may be eligible to receive a REFUND through the state of Illinois and the federal government for the amount you pay to cover your children?

The Kid Care Rebate program is offered through the state and federal governments for employees that insure children through 18 years of age with health insurance through The Field Museum. Depending on your family size and your monthly income, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for all or part of your health insurance premium for your children.

Family Size	KidCare Rebate Monthly Income Standards
1	$914 to $1,270
2	$1,227 to $1,705
3	$1,539 to $2,140
4	$1,852 to $2,575
5	$2,164 to $3,009

How much could you receive per month?

Example

Your cost for HMO Family coverage per month (for employee and 3 children)	$95.01
Less monthly cost for just employee coverage	- $27.00
Amount to cover your 3 children	$68.01

You would receive $68.01 a month or $817.20 per year!!!

To get more information or an application, please stop by the Human Resources Office or call 1-800-226-0768.

Submitted by Carole Kasarda

ECP / FOUNDERS' COUNCIL

Parker/Gentry award given to Colombian environmentalist

On September 15, Colombia's Minister for the Environment, Juan Mayr, received the fourth annual Parker/Gentry Award given by The Founders' Council. Many thanks to The Founders' Council for hosting this important event for almost 200 guests.

Mayr has led a tireless crusade for the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, the world's highest coastal range at 18,947 feet. The steep slopes of the Sierra Nevada harbor a staggering diversity of habitats and an impressive concentration of unique species. Only 18% of the original vegetation remains, however, because of intense pressures from cattle grazing, timber extraction, and the cultivation of coffee, marijuana, and coca (cocaine).

Mayr founded the Fundación Pró-Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in 1986 to address the dizzying array of threats to the ecology of this dynamic region. Focusing on the Sierra as the mountain source of 36 rivers, the Fundación succeeded in garnering support from diverse stakeholders by concentrating on water, a common concern of all parties. These stakeholders include long-time indigenous residents, in addition to guerilla groups, drug farmers, paramilitary factions, military troops, and colonists. Developed by the Fundación and guided by Mayr, a conservation strategy for the region provided a remarkable first step toward reconciliation and protection of the Sierra's nonhuman and human communities.

To learn more about Mayr or the Award's previous recipients, please visit the recently-launched Parker/Gentry website designed by Gretchen Baker of ECP (click the banner on www.fieldmuseum.org or go directly to http://www.fmnh.org/candr/ecp/Parker_Gentry/pg_home.htm).

Submitted by Sophie Twichell

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Zoology department welcomes Paul Goldstein

Paul Goldstein has joined the Zoology Department as Assistant Curator and has moved into his new office in the Insect Division. Paul received his BA from Harvard University and recently completed his PhD from the University of Connecticut on the molecular systematists and the evolution of host utilization in noctuid moths. With his strong specimen-based background in moths and butterflies (and his broad range of interests and talents, from habitat conservation to cladistic methodology) he will greatly contribute to our programs—please stop by and say hello to our latest addition to the curatorial staff!

Florida keys bivalve diversity study continues

Rüdiger Bieler (Zoology) recently returned from fieldwork in the Florida Keys where he continued molluscan biodiversity studies with Research Associate Paula Mikkelsen (AMNH). They were joined in the field by a group of students, including Becca Price (U of C), Field Museum intern Brett Kubricht (Iowa), Deidre Gonsalves-Jackson and Cecilia Miles (both Florida Institute of Technology), as well as Research Associate Tim Collins and postdoc Tim Rawlings (both Florida International University).

Armed with a collecting permit from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that allowed sampling in the offshore coral reefs of the National Marine Sanctuary, the group collected clams, oysters, mussels, and other bivalves by snorkeling, scuba diving, and dredging. This field season completed the last sampling for the bivalve part of the project, comprising about 300 species in that region. The material is now being prepared for the two institutional collections involved (FMNH and AMNH), and data analysis is underway to present a first synopsis of the work at an international bivalve conference in England later this month.

While in Florida, Rüdiger and Paula met with Sylvia Earle, a member of Field Museum's new international board, who serves as the National Geographic Society's Explorer in Residence during the five-year "Sustainable Seas Expedition" project to study the nation's marine sanctuaries.

Bieler receives NSF "PEET" grant

Rüdiger Bieler (Zoology) and Co-PI Paula Mikkelsen (Research Associate, Zoology, and AMNH) have been awarded a grant under the National Science Foundation's PEET ("Partnership for Enhancing Expertise in Taxonomy") program. The project, entitled "Bivalves—Research, Training, Electronic Dissemination of Data" is funded at a level of nearly $1.1 million (with $750,000 from NSF and the remainder from participating institutions).

Like other PEET grants, this project targets a group for which the urgent need for monographic research and the training of a new generation of specialists has been recognized. The bivalves (clams, oysters, mussels, etc.) are a group of great living and fossil diversity, and one of immense economic importance. There are few biologists specializing in investigating bivalve diversity and the largest (and ecologically as well as economically most important) bivalves have remained among the least understood. The research will concentrate on the marine family Veneridae, a group with more than 500 living species that form a key component in the world's clam fisheries. The project will train students at the graduate and postdoctoral levels and involves a wide range of approaches and techniques ranging from field collecting and comparative anatomical studies to DNA sequencing. Other educational efforts will target undergraduate trainees and various audiences that can be reached through web publications and museum programming at both FMNH and AMNH.

To make information about the species and associated data available to specialists and non-specialists alike, various bivalve databases, images, and keys will be developed for electronic web dissemination. Also planned is a field workshop in the Florida Keys in the year 2002 as well as a bivalve phylogeny workshop at The Field Museum in 2003.

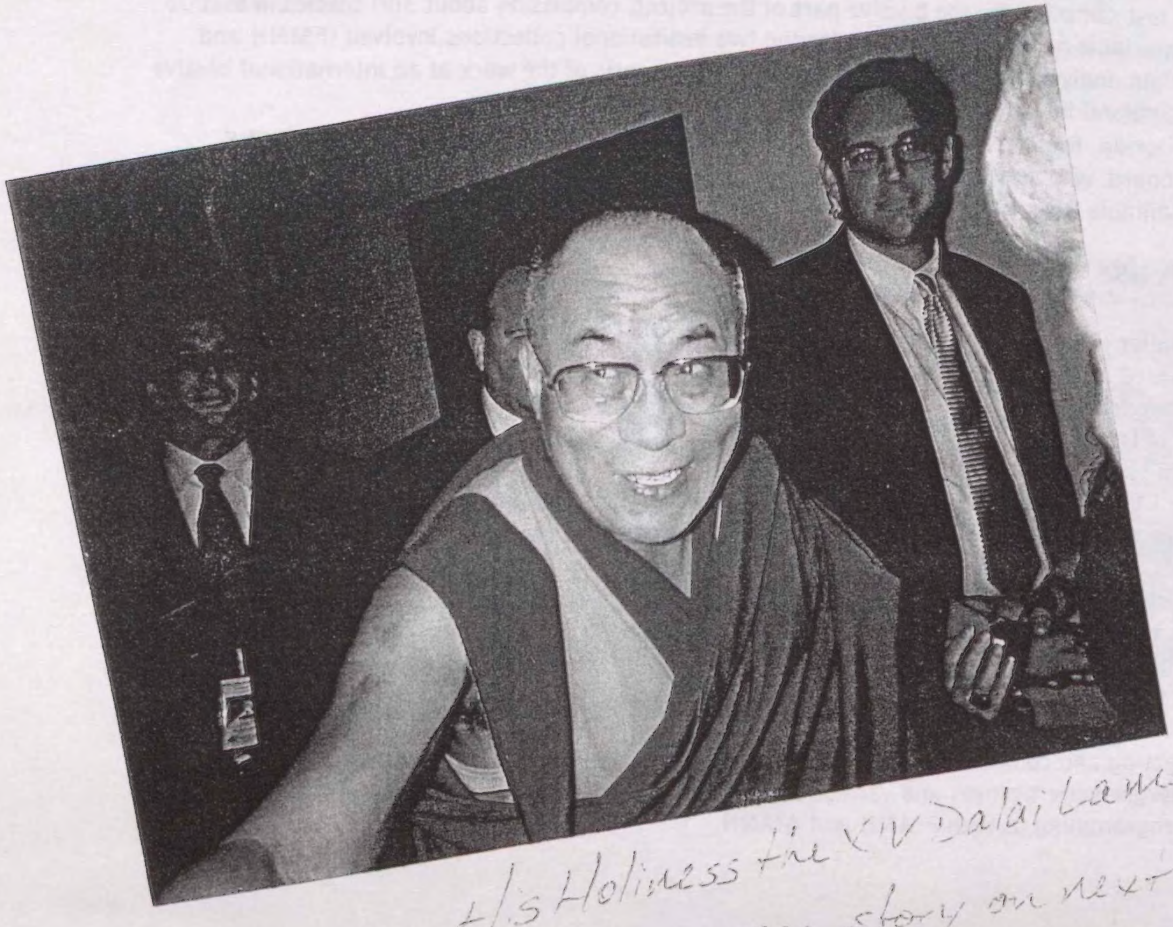
The Field Museum has had a successful grant application in each of the three PEET competitions since the program was established. Adjunct Curators **Sabine Huhndorf** (Botany) and **Petra Sierwald** (Zoology) obtained the two earlier awards, for research and training focusing on fungi and millipedes, respectively.

Stanley returns

Bill Stanley (Zoology/Mammals) recently returned from a very productive season in Europe and Tanzania. In July Bill attended the eighth International African Small Mammal Symposium held at the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris where he presented a paper describing differentiation among shrews in the Eastern Arc Mountains. The meeting was well attended by mammalogists working in all regions of the continent.

Bill then traveled to Tanzania and spent five weeks in the Ukaguru Mountains surveying the small mammals of this poorly known Eastern Arc range with colleagues from the University of Dar es Salaam. The team found the lowest abundance of rodents recorded in any of the Eastern Arc Mountains they have surveyed, but a high abundance of shrews. Two of the shrew species found are new records for the Ukaguru Mountains and represent significant range extensions for the known distribution of each species. The material collected will allow the team to determine the extent of differentiation among both shrews and rodents across the Eastern Arc Mountains.

Bill then traveled to a much drier forest to help with a project to engage local residents in the conservation efforts surrounding Ruaha National Park. While the distribution of many of the larger mammals that occur in the park and the surrounding areas are documented very little is known about the smaller mammals. Bill initiated a project to augment the distributional data of the small mammals of this unique region.



His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama

see story on next page